



UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION P.O. BOX 1029, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502
METALS DIVISION TELEPHONE: (303) 245-3700

To Wayne
JIM
FEB 16 1984

February 13, 1984

RECEIVED
FEB 15 1984

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

Mr. James Smith, Jr.
Coordinator of Mined Land Development
State of Utah
Oil, Gas and Mining
4241 State Office Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mr. Smith:

SUBJECT: DEREMO MINE WATER DISCHARGE - ACT/037/025

This letter is in response to your questions of October 31, 1983 concerning the Deremo Mine water discharge.

A water sample was taken, but due to improper procedures the sample became invalid. We were unaware of the problem until late December when we received the analysis. Another sample was taken on January 11, and we are awaiting the radium results. Field pH was 6.0 and TDS was 854 mg/l. I will forward the radium results as soon as they are received.

As per my November 17 letter we have removed the pump that was being used for supplying drill water and this practice has been curtailed.

As of October 1, 1983, Union Carbide discontinued use of the Snyder-Peterson evaporation ponds. We consider this an amendment and would like to file a notice of intention. Our plans are to centralize pumping operations thereby reducing affected acreage and maintenance. The actions that we have already taken and will take in the near future are as follows:

- A. The 7-30 gpm water discharge was transferred over to our Colorado evaporation pond site. We are currently pumping approximately 27 gpm into two ponds.
- B. During October 1983 work was done to control surface runoff by placing a berm on the eastern edge of the plant site and north of the ponds and waste stockpile (see enclosed map). This will cause any excessive surface runoff to flow around the waste pile and pond area and reduce flows into natural drainages destined for Utah. Union Carbide will monitor this year's runoff to locate and identify other areas of concern. We will also make necessary changes, that are reasonable, to reduce excessive runoff contact with waste and ore stockpiles and to further reduce flows into the pond areas.

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- C. As the ponds dry up during the summer months Union Carbide will sample the pond bottoms. If the material in the pond bottoms contains values that are deemed economically recoverable, it will be picked up and hauled to one of our mills for processing. All other material that has been deposited in the ponds from the pumping will be picked up and placed on the existing low grade or waste stockpiles. These stockpiles will be reclaimed during final mine reclamation as per our original Utah and Colorado permits. The pond area will be leveled and contoured (see enclosed map). Topsoil will be placed over the area and reseeded will be done according to our plan and schedule in the original permits. The area will be monitored and reseeded if necessary.

Discussions with the landowner in Utah have indicated that he wishes to retain the pond as a stock pond. After analysis of the pond bottom, we will determine if we will have to reclaim and build a new pond or simply transfer the liability for maintenance and ownership to the landowner. Another method may be to remove any material from the bottom that is objectionable and then transfer the liability to the landowner. In any case, it is very probable that a pond will remain to collect surface runoff for stock watering or other uses.

Union Carbide feels the above plans can be acceptable to both the DOGM and the landowner. If there is any other information the Division requires to clarify Union Carbide's intentions, please call.

Also included you will find a revised bond estimate similar to other estimates recently submitted and in accordance to your request of October 31.

Sincerely,

Bruce A. Greene
by Nils B. Haubold
Bruce A. Greene
Mine Superintendent

BAG:bnw

Enclosures

cc: DOGM
Pam Grubaugh-Littig
Tom Tetting

UCC
R. R. Evans
N. B. Haubold
R. L. Miller
L. T. Waterland